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Helen Lawyer Bryan

Helen "Lindy" Lawyer Bryan, 84, of Hilton Head Island died Friday, June 4, 2004, at her home.

Mrs. Bryan was born March 2, 1920, on Hilton Head Island, a daughter of the late Edward and Eugenia Wright Lawyer.

She was educated in the local public schools of Hilton Head and through the Beaufort County adult education program.

She had been a member of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church since 1932. She was a deaconess for 60 years and was the president of the Deaconess Ministry for 40 years. She has served as an usher, church clerk, church treasurer, recording secretary, senior choir member, charity sister, women's fellowship ministry and pastor's aide member. She was a member of the St. Catherine's Chapter No. 46, Order of the Eastern Star. In 1987, she was featured in National Geographic magazine for her "cast-net knitting" skills.

She worked as a farmer and oyster shucker alongside her husband for many years. After 1956, she worked in the hospitality industry at the William Hilton Inn. She was later employed as a cook for the Beaufort County School District and was a

caregiver to the Sisk family for many years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Deacon Eddie Bryan Sr., and seven children.

Surviving are four sons and three daughters-in-law, Eddie and Charlene Bryan Jr. of Fort Myers, Fla., Samuel and Juanita Bryan of Elouina, Ga., Bernard Bryan of Port Royal and John and Norma Bryan of Bronx, N.Y.; a grandson she reared, Lawrence of Hilton Head; three daughters and sons-in-law, Mary and William Murray of Hilton Head, Albertha and Lee Henry Mitchell of Bluffton and Dorothy and Joseph Cooper of Savannah; four sisters, Mary Frances Livingston of Bronx, Dorothy Mae Johnson of Savannah, and Viola Jones and Ruth E. Germany of Hilton Head; a brother-in-law, Elijah Jones; a sister-in-law, Delores Lawyer; a cousin, Laura Holmes; a godson, Melvin Murray Jr.; 42 grandchildren; 63 great-grandchildren; and 25 great-great-grandchildren.

Wake services will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. today in the sanctuary of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, with Eastern Star Rites.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Burial will be in Talbird Cemetery.